

read means for reading the data of the block stored in said storage means in a second order of scan which is the other of the order of raster scan and the order of zigzag scan and in that:

said storage means includes n memories where n is an integer equal to or greater than 2, and the data of the block are distributed to said n memories such that n items of data consecutive in the first order of scan are stored in n different memories and n items of data consecutive in the second order of scan are stored in the different n memories; said write means simultaneously writes data in the different memories in the first order of scan; and

said read means simultaneously reads the data from the different memories in the second order of scan.

5. (Amended) A method for processing data for processing a block formed by two-dimensional data in a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns, characterized in that it comprises the steps of:

distributing the data of the block to n memories and storing them in the different memories by simultaneously writing the same in a first order of scan such that n items of data (n is an integer equal to or greater than 2) consecutive in the first order of scan which is either of the order of raster scan and the order of zigzag scan are stored in the n different memories and such that n items of data consecutive in a second order of scan which is the other of the raster scan and the order of zigzag scan are stored in the n different memories; and

reading the stored data of a block from the different memories in the second order of scan.